

# Insecutor Inscitiae Menstruus

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## A NEW CALIFORNIAN COLEOPHORA ON PLUM

(*Lepidoptera, Coleophoridae*)

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### *Coleophora sacramenta*, new species.

Palpi white, streaked with golden brown above; second joint tufted. Antennæ white, distinctly annulated beyond second segment with light golden brown; base covered above by large white projecting tuft. Face, head, and thorax silvery white. Fore wings white, faintly peppered with brown scales, the irroration becoming more apparent toward the tips of the wings; cilia a light golden fuscous, shading to dark brown at apex of wings. Hind wings dull lead-gray; cilia on costa concolorous; dorsal cilia golden fuscous. Abdomen white, faintly and irregularly irrorated with fuscous scales; anal tuft silvery white. Tarsi faintly annulated with golden brown.

Alar expanse, 15 mm.

Habitat, Santa Clara, California.

Food plant, *Prunus*.

Type, Cat. No. 18908, U. S. Nat. Mus.

Described from six specimens received from Mr. E. O. Essig, secretary of the State Horticultural Board of California, with request for a name. He states that the species is quite destructive to the foliage of the cultivated plum trees in the vicinity of Sacramento. The adult moths, according to data on the specimens, issue during the latter part of April.

The larva is not a leaf miner, but belongs to that group which feeds externally during the whole of the larval period. The mature case is 8 to 8.5 mm. long, pistol-formed, similar to the European *C. currucipennella*, though not quite so rough, black except at the upper edges of the flaps, which shade into brown. The mouth is slightly deflected, and the posterior end makes a sharp right angle with the upper edge of the case.